

Scheme of Intensive Cotton Development Programme during 1991-92. The scheme provides for operational charges @ Rs. 125/- per ha.

(c) The programme of aerial spraying which was in operation during the Seventh Plan, has been revived to protect the cotton crop from severe attack of pests which causes heavy loss to the crop.

### **Sick Wells in Bombay High**

4701. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick wells in Bombay High up to October, 1991 and the number of wells closed so far;

(b) the quantum of production of oil reduced due to such closure;

(c) the proposal of the Government to tide over the present situation and augment the oil production; and

(d) whether any foreign collaboration has been made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) The number of sick/ idle and non-flowing oil wells/strings in the Bombay High field as on 1.11.1991 was 79.

(b) 0.59 MMTPA

(c) ~~Shortfall~~ Shortfall in domestic production is made up through imports. Five oil field development projects have also been approved to augment production.

(d) No, Sir.

### **Non-Aligned Movement**

4702. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM);

(b) whether there was any proposal to merge NAM and G-7 Countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) India played a catalytic role in the deliberations of the recent Ministerial level meeting of Nonaligned countries in Accra from 2-7 September. India has also actively sought to strengthen the role of the Nonaligned Movement in international affairs by activating the Non-aligned Coordinating Bureau and the Non-aligned Caucus in the Security Council.

(b) and (c). A proposal to merge the Nonaligned Movement and the G-77 was discussed at the Ministerial meeting in Accra. However, the Committee on Methodology set up by the Ministerial Conference held in Nicosia in 1988 was mandated to report on the creation of a Joint Coordinating Committee.

[Translation]

### **Coal mining contracts to Foreign Companies**

4703. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of contracts given to foreign companies in coal sector;

(b) the number of contracts which have expired their term and those which are still valid among them;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the work of the foreign Companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts being made by the Government to replace foreign contracts by indigenous ones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) The number of contracts awarded to foreign companies in the coal sector during the last two years is 23.

(b) Out of the above 23 contracts, 8 contracts have since been executed and the balance 15 were on-going contracts.

(c) and (d). The progress of these contracts is closely reviewed from time to time at the Coal Company and Government levels. The progress of these contracts have generally been found to be satisfactory.

(e) For the introduction of new technology and to improve production, productivity, safety and higher rate of coal recovery, selective bilateral cooperation is sought from other countries having such expertise. Contracts are awarded to foreign companies after the Govt. is satisfied that the technology and equipment proposed to be imported are not indigenously available and where financial assistance is made available by the collaborating country.

#### **Exploration for Graphite Reserves in Ranchi, Bihar**

4704. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any survey for locating graphite in district Ranchi, Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(d) if not, the time by which the exploration work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) The information so far available with Geological Survey of India (GSI) have not revealed any potential graphite mineralisation in Ranchi district of Bihar. There is no proposal for exploration of graphite in this district.

[English]

#### **Global Initiative to Help Third World Economics**

4705. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he called for a global initiative to help the deteriorating economics of the third world during the recent address to the Ministerial level meeting of the Group of 77 held in New York; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the other member countries thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. In a recent address, he welcomed the United